

REMARKS

Claims 12-14, 16-19 and 21-29 are pending in this application. Claims 16-18 and 21-29 have been withdrawn by the Examiner, but should be rejoined and allowed when independent claim 12 is allowed. By this Amendment, independent claim 12 is amended. Support for the amendments to claim 12 can be found, for example, Fig. 1 of the application. No new matter is added. Reconsideration of this application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

The courtesies extended to Applicant's representative by Examiner Hinze at the interview held September 15, 2009, are appreciated. The reasons presented at the interview as warranting favorable action are incorporated into the remarks below, which constitute Applicant's record of the interview.

The Office Action rejects claims 12-14 and 19 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Hiraga et al. (Hiraga), U.S. Patent No. 4,970,952, in view of Bengtsson, U.S. Patent No. 4,858,526, and further in view of Machinery's Handbook, 26th Edition. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

As agreed during the interview, the combination of Hiraga, Bengtsson and Machinery's Handbook does not disclose, and would not have rendered obvious, a stamp having a supporting case fixed in a main body case, the supporting case having a movable print body disposed therein, at least part of the main body case completely surrounds the supporting case, as recited in independent claim 12.

Hiraga discloses that the casing 1 includes a cover 3 that is vertically slidably mounted in the casing to conceal belt feed wheels (see Figs. 1-3 and col. 2, lines 36-38). The Office Action asserts that "as the cover 3 slides on the casing 1, it appears that at least some portion of the case 1 is slidably fixed in the cover 3" (see page 3, lines 4 and 5 of the Office Action). As such, the Office Action asserts that the cover 3 corresponds to the claimed main body case

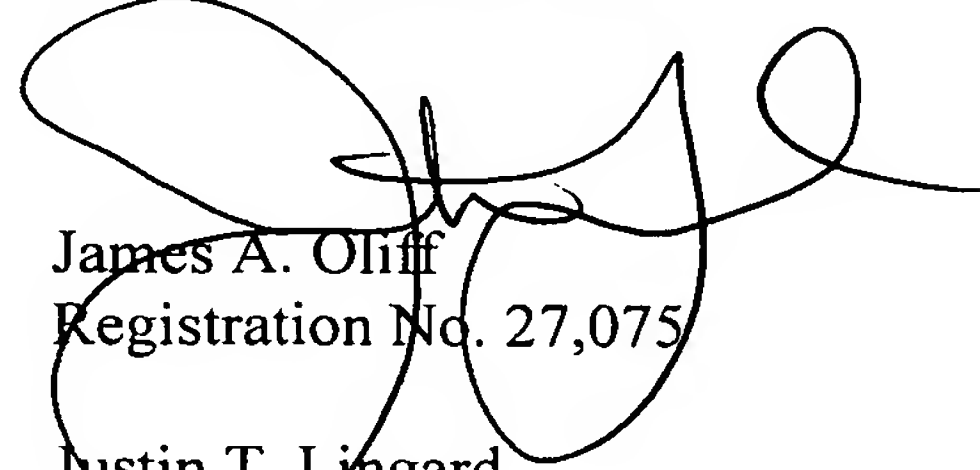
and that casing 1 corresponds to the claimed supporting case. However, as discussed during the interview, the cover 3 is merely a small cover that opens to expose an aperture in the apparatus so that a user can adjust the settings of the device (see Figs. 1-3 and col. 4, lines 10-15). As seen from the cross-sectional view in Fig. 2, the cover 3 of Hiraga is only located on one side of the device and does not extend around all four of the surfaces of the device. As such, there is no portion of cover 3 that completely surrounds casing 1. Bengtsson and Machinery's Handbook fail to overcome the deficiencies of Hiraga. Therefore, the combination of Hiraga, Bengtsson and Machinery's Handbook does not disclose, and would not have rendered obvious, a stamp having a supporting case fixed in a main body case, the supporting case having a movable print body disposed therein, at least part of the main body case completely surrounds the supporting case, as recited in independent claim 12.

Therefore, independent claim 12 and dependent claims 13, 14 and 19 are patentable over the combination of Hiraga, Bengtsson and Machinery's Handbook. Thus, it is respectfully requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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